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9 December 1964

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
RELATING TO NATIONAL SECURITY

State Dept. review completed

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*British Guiana: (Information as of 0400 EST) The election is extremely close with Premier Jagan's People's Progressive Party (PPP) running slightly ahead of Burnham's People's National Congress (PNC) and the smaller parties falling way behind.

Despite the tight fight to the finish between the PPP and PNC and a massive turnout of about 95 percent of the registered voters, the polling was orderly.

Voting was on strictly racial lines--East Indians for the PPP and Negroes for the PNC--which virtually eliminated the small rival East Indian parties and greatly reduced the vote for the multiracial United Force. The poor showing of these parties, despite the protection of British troops, indicates the success of the PPP's intimidation campaign and the extreme difficulty of breaking Jagan's hold on the East Indian voter.

With results from all but 5 of the 35 districts reported, the PPP had captured a plurality of 48 percent, but there is too much anti-Jagan strength in the remaining districts to give Jagan much prospect of a majority. Under the new proportional representation system, the governor is empowered to choose as premier the man he considers most likely to obtain the legislature's confidence. He is likely to tap Burnham for the job since the combined opposition votes exceed those of the PPP.

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The prospect is thus for a PNC minority government or a shaky anti-Jagan coalition. In these circumstances the new government will be unstable, racial tensions will remain high and the PPP may well resort to violence.

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Cyprus: The Turkish Government, probably concerned over its deteriorating position on Cyprus, is again calling attention to dangers in the situation.

On 5 December a Turkish Foreign Ministry official told Ambassador Hare that Ankara is worried by stories in the Greek and Greek Cypriot press alleging that the Turkish Cypriots are planning a new attack. The official said his government fears such stories could be preliminary to new action by the Greek side. He warned that an assault on the isolated Turkish outpost at Kokkina, in northwest Cyprus, would bring an "automatic reaction" from Turkey.

Regarding the forthcoming General Assembly debate on the Cyprus issue, the official said that Ankara would press for a resolution enjoining all parties involved to begin direct talks. He said Turkey would talk with either the Greeks or Greek Cypriots, but felt chances were better with Athens. He indicated that various Greek moves promoting "creeping enosis" had not gone unnoticed by the Turks.

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The Greek Government still shows no signs of taking any new initiatives toward a settlement.

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West Germany - MLF: [There is growing sentiment within the Bonn government to postpone a decision on the MLF until after the Bundestag elections next September.]

[Foreign Minister Schroeder complained to Ambassador McGhee about the attitude he found at the 4 December meeting of the Ministerial Defense Committee. In particular, committee chairman Heinrich Krone, a friend of Adenauer, had urged a delay in creation of the MLF. Schroeder said Defense Minister von Hassel, also concerned over this trend, was arranging an MLF briefing for high German officials.]

[The Canadian ambassador in Bonn reports he is increasingly encountering two schools of thought on the MLF. While the Foreign Ministry holds to the February-March dates, the other school, which includes Minister Westrick, Erhard's chief aide in the chancellery, is thinking more in terms of delay.]

[McGhee believes that faced with the uncertainty of the British position, the bitter attacks by De Gaulle on the MLF, and the generally passive attitude of the German people on the subject, a decision to delay can become increasingly attractive to Erhard. The chancellor may even come to the point of considering a deal by which critics in his own party would ease their attacks on him in return for a delay on the MLF.]

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NOTES

Congo: Government forces have largely consolidated their hold on Stanleyville, and continue to advance into the rebel-held territory of the northeast. The rebels, however, have recaptured one town in the northeast recently held by the government, and are active southwest of Stanleyville and south and west of Bukavu. The Algerian press continues to claim that Algeria has sent "volunteers" to the Congo.

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Belgium-Congo: [The immediate crisis in Belgian-Congolese relations resulting from Tshombé's recent actions affecting Belgian holdings in the Congo has taken a "turn for the better," according to Davignon, Spaak's chief of cabinet. Premier Tshombé, in a personal letter to Foreign Minister Spaak, has promised to visit Brussels this month to try to iron out their differences. However, Davignon told Ambassador MacArthur on 7 December that Tshombé's unilateral action represents a "bad omen" for Brussels' future relations with him and that the Belgians must review their whole program of assistance to the Congo following their talks with Tshombé.]

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Cuba: Havana radio reported yesterday that Labor Minister Augusto Martinez shot himself after having been informed that Castro was about to fire him because of "grave administrative errors." This explanation for the attempted suicide seems more reasonable than speculation that it was another indication of political tension within the Cuban leadership. Martinez was a member of Castro's original cabinet, has been closely associated with Che Guevara and Raul Castro, and is not linked with the leadership of the prerevolutionary Communist party.

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- The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs
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